

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Thursday, March 30, 2000

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: "If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts."

Speak to us, O Lord. Soothe our spirits. May Your voice quicken in us Your saving grace. When we are confused or disheartened, be attentive to us and give us purity of heart. When we are called upon to speak Your word of justice or defend the weak and the poor, strengthen us for Your purpose.

May the words of Your Holy Scriptures guide us in our search and enlighten our minds. May the beauty of the trees and their blossoms, the spring air, touch our creative souls and help us to bring forth a new Earth and a new vision to resolve difficulties and produce peace among Your people.

May the cry for bread or for water, the struggle for the prisoner's freedom and the needs of the very least in our midst be heard as Your own voice arresting our attention. For Your word is truth, and the truth will set us free.

Speak, Lord. This whole day Your servants are listening. Speak, Lord, and we will obey.

"If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts." Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Washington (Mr. METCALF) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. METCALF led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate disagrees to the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 761) "An Act to regulate interstate commerce by electronic means by permitting and encouraging the continued expansion of electronic commerce through the operation of free market

forces, and other purposes", agrees to a conference asked by the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints from the—

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BURNS, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. GORTON, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. WYDEN;

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs for items within their jurisdiction: Mr. GRAMM, Mr. BENNETT, and Mr. SARBANES; and

Committee on the Judiciary for items within their jurisdiction: Mr. HATCH, Mr. THURMOND, and Mr. LEAHY; to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain 1 minutes at the conclusion of the day's work.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3908, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, would the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) briefly tell us what the schedule will be today?

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would yield, it is my intent to expedite the completion of this supplemental. We have, as the gentleman understands, from last evening's unanimous consent request, we have a number of amendments that were agreed to that would be considered.

We will proceed in the regular order and consider those amendments, and I would expect we would roll the votes on some of them and hopefully complete our business on this bill as we approach the noon hour, or shortly thereafter. That would be my hope and my intent.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I thank the gentleman for his comments on that. As he knows, we were hopeful that perhaps we could get a matter that was of some controversy last night out of the way. If the gentleman from Pennsyl-

vania (Mr. WELDON) gets here in the next few seconds, and I am hoping to see him come through the door because, happily, we have resolved that issue, I think, on both sides with all the relevant parties.

I know the gentleman is on his way. He will be here in a second I am told by his advance person.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would continue to yield, I would like to advise Members that it is my intent to expedite consideration, so I would be objecting to any extra time above and beyond the rule.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, the gentleman from Florida has informed me of that and, as always, I know the gentleman will be eminently fair. The Speaker is in the chair, and I would like to say as one member of the Committee on Appropriations, but I think that I speak for every member on our side of the aisle, that we perceive the gentleman from Florida (Chairman YOUNG) to be a man of great fairness who runs the committee so that everybody has the opportunity to participate fully. I want the gentleman to know that we appreciate that consideration and that involvement on his behalf. It is very impressive.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) is here, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS) is here, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) is here. Now if we had the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON), we would be in good shape. And, of course, the distinguished gentleman from Alabama is here.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

2000 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to House Resolution 450, and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 3908.

□ 1006

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.